

## **Assessment of Program Effectiveness**

### **City of Pasadena FY 08-09**

- A. Attach a summary of the effectiveness of your storm water management program. This summary should include, at a minimum, the following:
1. An assessment of your agency's compliance with permit requirements, based on your responses to the questions in this form;

The ongoing review and assessment of the policies and procedures have enabled the City to better understand and subsequently better implement the Permit requirements. The City of Pasadena elects to be an environmental advocate and a leader in environmental compliance and protection. The City has cultivated superior environmental standards that will provide for sustainable municipal development.

The City recognizes that growth and opportunity cannot be conducted at the expense of environmental protection and enhancement, and that growth and environmental stewardship are intimately related.

The City believes that the protection of the urban and natural environments is a social responsibility and a fundamental obligation of a democratic government, and that an ecologically impoverished and polluted environment adversely impacts human health.

The City is striving to become a model for environmental excellence and a prevailing force in environmental protection. To accomplish these goals, the City has established policies that will incorporate environmental responsibility into its daily management of urban and industrial growth, education, energy and water use, air quality, transportation, waste reduction, economic development, and open space and natural habitats.

2. Descriptions of any evaluation methods that your agency uses to determine the effectiveness of your storm water management program;

The evaluation of this program has been mostly through the interaction methods with the public, business community, and the staff. The effectiveness of the program has been observed by the increase in public awareness, business knowledge, and staff conscientiousness.

The upcoming development of the TMDLs Implementation Plan and the ongoing monitoring of the LA River maybe the tools for more efficient evaluation methods in the future.

3. A summary of the strengths and weaknesses of your agency's storm water management program;

The strength of the program is in the tremendous effort by the City staff to ensure compliance. The City believes in implementing the program with its limited resources to the best of its abilities. Constructive criticisms and positive efforts towards the program enhancements are also considered to be of the strengths of the City staff.

The weakness of the program is the increasing cost to the City as additional requirements continue to be imposed. So far, the city has been able to meet the

minimum requirements, but unless additional funding can be obtained, future compliance may be difficult.

4. A list of specific program highlights and accomplishments;

The City has taken a number of significant actions to become a green city. Recent examples include:

- Adoption of an Environmental Charter
- Endorsement of the United Nations Green Cities Declaration and Urban Environmental Accords
- Endorsement of the US Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement
- Adoption of a Green City Action Plan
- Adoption of ordinance creating an Environmental Advisory Commission
- Adoption of a Green Building Program
- Adoption of a resolution in support of Green Cities California

The continuing efforts include;

- City is a member of the LA River Metals Coordinated Monitoring Plan (CMP) Technical Committee (TC).
- The city has also joined the Technical Committee to help develop the LA River Metals Implementation Plan for Reach 2 participating agencies.
- The City has joined with the three neighboring cities to implement the Trash TMDL by developing a plan that was approved by the Regional Board.
- The City has implemented a very strict program for all hillside development in an attempt to further reduce hillside erosion from entering the storm drains.
- Catch basins are temporarily blocked during events, such as the Rose Parade, where there is an elevated risk of excessive trash entering the storm drains.
- The City has established a separate Hotline for reporting illicit discharge. The number is 626-744-STRM
- Total of 331 Catch Basin inserts and approximately 502 feet of curb screens have been installed in order to comply with the September 2008 and 2009 deadline compliance point.



5. A description of water quality improvements or degradation in your watershed over the past fiscal year;

All Permit related water quality monitoring have been performed by the County of Los Angeles.

In addition, the coordinated monitoring program of the LA River Metals TMDLs began in October 2008. The results of the samples taken for Dry and Wet Weather will be submitted to the RWQCB annually as required. The water quality improvements or degradation may be determined more efficiently after implementing plans are developed and implemented which will address reduction pollutants.

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6. Interagency coordination between cities to improve the storm water management program;

The City of Pasadena is a member of the LA River Metals Coordinated Monitoring Plan (CMP) Technical Committee (TC). The city has also joined the Technical Committee to develop the LA River Metals Implementation Plan for Reach 2 participating agencies.

The City also meets bi-monthly with three neighboring cities where the staff discusses the NPDES issues as a regular item. In addition, the City attends meetings and workshops to discuss TMDLs and other issues.

7. Future plans to improve your agency's storm water management program

TMDLs and their inclusions in the future permit maybe the most important issue to address in the City's Plan. In addition, the storm water management program is continuously evaluated and improvements are made as needed. Policies and procedures may have to be revised in order to meet the upcoming Permit deadlines.

8. Suggestions to improve the effectiveness of your program or the County model programs.

More cooperation and coordination among City Departments

- B. On a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being full implementation of requirements by their deadlines), rate your municipality's level of compliance with Order No. 01-182.

The City, to the Maximum Extend Practicable, has implemented the requirements to the best level of its abilities. In absence and because of the highly subjective nature of the definition for "a full Implementation", given the circumstances, limited funds and challenges that staff faces through the year, City would give itself a 10 for its efforts.

- C. List any suggestions your agency has for improving program reporting and assessment.

Irrelevant questions need to be eliminated from the forms. Tasks that are not required by the Permit may be difficult to report on. These items need to be modified or eliminated.